

REMARKS

In responding to the Examiner's rejection of claims 80-82 and 84-86 of the above-identified application we first note that the prior art document cited by the Examiner, a printout from the "Southco Website, March 2" fails to comply with the standards set for anticipation. Anticipation requires that the allegedly anticipating document explicitly disclose each limitation exactly as set forth in the respective claim. By way of example, and not limitation, claim 80 includes the following unmet limitation:

"a mortise lock where the lock has an exterior profile which slides into the boring, and, extends laterally into the door body to substantially fill the boring the lock having a height parameter and a width parameter, the ratio of height parameter to width parameter exceeds 1.8."

We know from looking at the diagram of the "Offshore" that what is shown is merely an external image and is impossible to ascertain the characteristics of the lock and boring therein. The lock in every instance is covered by an external faceplate on the edge of the door and as a result, it is impossible to ascertain whether or not the above phraseology is anticipated by any of the "Offshore" images.

Inherency is not available as a basis for sustaining the present rejection. That doctrine requires certainty. Here there is no certainty, only speculation.

Thus, for at least the above reasons, the claims are not anticipated by the Offshore images. Additionally, we note that the Offshore document and images are simply not prior art relative to the present application. The images of printing provided by the Examiner carries the following phrase "Copyright 2002". The date noted by the Examiner "March 2, 2000" simply does not appear anywhere on the provided document in connection with the "Offshore" images. Further, the present application is a continuation application of U.S. Patent 6,655,108 which was filed December 7, 2001. That application claims the benefit of a previously filed provisional application No. 60/254,325 filed December 8, 2000.

It is submitted that the reference by the Examiner to the "March 2, 2000 date" finds no support in the cited document which is the basis of the rejection of the pending claims. An anticipation rejection cannot be based on conjecture or speculation.

For at the least the above reasons, the pending claims are not properly rejected as anticipation. It is requested that this rejection be withdrawn.

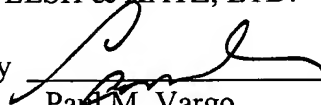
By this Amendment, a number of additional claims have been added to the application. Those claims are all allowable for at least the reasons that claims 74-79 have been allowed.

Allowance of the application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

WELSH & KATZ, LTD.

By


Paul M. Vargo
Reg. No. 29,116

WELSH & KATZ, LTD.
120 South Riverside Plaza – 22nd Floor
Chicago, Illinois 60606
(312) 655-1500